

Contact: John Cole
252-223-5122x223

May 26, 2009

**East Carolina University 2nd University in the State to Earn NOAA
StormReady® Designation**

Ceremony Planned During Hurricane Awareness Week

NOAA's National Weather Service will recognize East Carolina University as StormReady® after completing a rigorous national program that has strengthened the university's ability to protect life and property during severe weather. On Thursday, May 28, 2009, during National Hurricane Awareness Week, officials from ECU and representatives from the National Weather Service will conduct a ceremony recognizing the university as StormReady®.

ECU is only the second university in North Carolina to complete the program. ECU, along with all of eastern North Carolina was severely affected by flooding from Hurricane Floyd in September 1999. The StormReady® program helps communities and universities prepare for dangerous weather through better communications infrastructure, community outreach and hazardous weather training.

WHAT: ECU StormReady® Ceremony

WHEN: Thursday, May 28, 2009
11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Todd Dining Hall
College Hill Drive
(Park on the street)

WHO: Kevin Seitz, vice chancellor for administration and finance
Bill Koch, associate vice chancellor for environmental health and safety

Richard Bandy, Meteorologist-in-Charge, Newport
John Cole, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, Newport
Jim Wingenroth, Forecaster, Newport

The StormReady® program is part of the National Weather Service's working partnership with the International Association of Emergency Managers and the National Emergency Management Association.

On the Web:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: <http://www.noaa.gov> National
Weather Service StormReady®: <http://www.weather.gov/StormReady®>

NOAA National Weather Service in Newport: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/mhx/>
Hurricane Floyd 10th Anniversary Website: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/mhx/Floyd/>